

BUILDING PLANS ARE ADOPTED

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCEPTS PLANS OF FORT WORTH ARCHITECTS.

Largest Normal Building in State will be Erected for West Texas State Normal at Canyon City.

After several days deliberation, the State Board of Education last Saturday selected plans for the main building for the West Texas State Normal which has been located at Canyon City. A number of plans had been submitted by various architects and, from reports coming from Austin, it appears that the Board had some very elegant designs to select from. Waller, Shaw & Fields of Fort Worth were finally awarded the contract for the plans and they have promised to have the plans ready at once so that the contract for the main building may be let by the 20th of this month.

While plans of the building selected have not as yet been sent to this city, reports state that the building is to be three stories in height with thirty recitation rooms, two large lecture rooms, an auditorium 100 by 100 feet with a seating capacity of fifteen hundred people. It will also include a gymnasium, fifty by one hundred feet and a swimming pool of like dimensions.

The outside architecture of the building will conform to the old style of Texas architecture, namely, the Mission style and the perspective presented shows the building to be one of the handsomest public buildings in the state. The State Board decided upon this class of architecture because of the fact that the building of this institution is such that it is intended to make the entire plans for the building and grounds conform to Texas ideas and to Texas ideals.

As above stated it is the intention of the State Board to let the contract for the construction of the main building by the 20th of this month so that the actual work on the building may be begun early in January. The State Board also announces that it is the intention to have the building ready for occupancy by September first of next year so that the school may open in the early days of that month.

Those who submitted plans for the building were George Burnett of Amarillo, Waller, Shaw & Fields of Ft. Worth, Henry T. Phelps of San Antonio, C. H. Page & Bro. of Austin, Scott & Pierce of Waco, Thompson & Harrison of Dallas, J. Ira Jones of Lawton, Okla., Barry H. Hill of Plainview, A. O. Watson of Austin and R. G. Kirsch of St. Louis.

Never in the history of the state has there been such a good opportunity for the State Board to select a corps of teachers which will compare with the greatest teacher's educational institutions of the United States. Applications are being made by some of the best known educators for the various positions in the faculty and the Board will be enabled to secure the very best teaching talent for each department. The selection of the faculty, however, will not be made until sometime during the spring, after which the definite advertising matter will be issued and sent to the various persons inquiring about the Normal.

Every day there comes to the hands of the Secretary of the Commercial Club inquiries about this new state school, people who desire to know all about the course of study and when the

school is open, price of board and boarding facilities, and about the chances to rent desirable houses near the school building. From these inquiries it appears that some houses for rental purposes will have to be erected along with the large number of boarding houses that will be required for the students.

A Letter From R. B. Cousins.

The following letter handed to the News by L. E. Cowling, one of the Normal school trustees, is self explanatory.

Austin, Tex., Dec. 6, 1909.

Mr. L. E. Cowling,
Canyon City, Texas.

Dear Sir:

All public business proceeds with exasperating slowness. I have pushed with all possible strength in this normal school matter since the law became effective last June. The Board has finally selected architects and they are now at work on the details of our new building. It affords me very great pleasure to say that, in my judgment, the architects selected are men of the very highest training and experience in the kind of work which we have in hand. I am entirely confident that we shall have a school house which is thoroughly modern in every particular, and which shall exhibit in its construction the very best that has been developed and proved in school architecture. Within a week or ten days, I feel sure, we will be ready to invite the contractors to make their figures. I am hoping that the contractor will be ready and the work begun by the first day of January; but, whatever may happen, I am determined that our school shall open the first week of next September. I shall insist that the contractors be put under bond to finish the house by the first day of September, 1910, and that the date for the opening of the school be fixed not later than the 15th day of next September. If the State Board of Education will co-operate with me in these matters, the school will open during the first part of the month of September without fail. If it should so happen that the building can not be made ready for occupancy by that time, with the consent and co-operation of the good people of Canyon City and Randall County, the school will open, if necessary, in the court house, the city churches, under a tent, or elsewhere on the date fixed. So far as I am concerned there shall be no compromise or condition concerning the opening of the school. At the earliest possible moment I will send you a drawing of our building.

Anticipating great pleasure in being associated with you in this great enterprise, I am,

Yours sincerely,
R. B. Cousins.

The Thanksgiving Concert.

The "Thanksgiving Concert" given by the Ladies' Home Mission Society of the Presbyterian church at the opera house Friday, Nov. 26, was a social and financial success. The News wishes to state that all of the programme was good, the young folks did well, and better than some of those imported traveling shows or plays, and besides the money is used here and not taken away. Why not have this kind of amusement more frequently? They answer a two-fold purpose, first to train the young people to appear before and to entertain the public, and second, they help along a good cause in a financial way. The News apologizes for failing to make mention of this concert last week.

Panhandle Schools and West Texas Normal.

Interview with State Superintendent R. B. Cousins.

In capturing the West Texas State Normal school Canyon City, Amarillo and other towns of the Panhandle will profit greatly and this region will become known as one of great influence in the educational world of the West. Matters regarding this school are of such vital interest to the people of the Plains, that the Daily Panhandle never overlooks an opportunity to give news of men and affairs in this connection. A member of the Daily Panhandle staff spent the past week in Austin and, while there, called on State Superintendent of Education R. B. Cousins, who is to be the President of the state normal at Canyon City, and during the interview President Cousins spoke most interestingly of affairs of the school. He said:

"You may say to the good people who read your paper that on the first day of January I shall take up my residence at Canyon City and become a citizen of the Plains country. It is my desire to take part in everything that tends toward the material prosperity and the permanent upbuilding of that great section of our state. Of course, I shall devote my time very largely to the educational interests, but I shall not be indifferent to anything and everything that could add to the health, wealth or prosperity of the people. The State Normal School will be located at Canyon City, but it is my desire and fixed intention to make its influence felt for good in stimulating educational interest in every city on the Plains.

"The people of Randall county have contributed very generously of their wealth to the establishment of a school of high order, and it is the very earnest desire of the State Board of Education and of myself to make every dollar which they have contributed, to bring a just return. We shall proceed at once vigorously to the building of the houses necessary, but we shall consider every step very carefully so that when the work is completed the people can take a just pride in the work which they have done. It is my desire and my belief that every man who has contributed a dollar toward securing the location shall live to see the day when he will believe that the money contributed to the building of this school was the most profitable investment that he ever made. The money available for the building of this school will enable us to construct a house modern in every particular, useful for the purpose intended and a thing of beauty. It is safe to say that we shall have one of the best equipped normal school plants in the entire South.

"I can say for the State Board of Education that it has not made a single mistake in a man or woman that it has added to the faculty of a normal school since the beginning of this administration. It is safe to say that it will proceed with the same degree of intelligence in the selection of the faculty for the normal on the Plains that it has exercised in the selection of faculties of other normal schools. There will be no dead timber in the new school, and every man and woman selected will be the very best one that could be obtained in Texas or out of Texas for the work to be done and the money at our command. Politics, personal friendship and enmities, and every other consideration will be neglected and forgotten except one, that one

being the question of preparation by nature and training to do the best work in the best way.

"I am particularly interested in the Amarillo city schools for the reason that every normal school ought to have a practice department in which the young teachers who are in training may have the opportunity to observe the best teaching and take part in that work. The normal school will have need of the Amarillo city schools for observation. Our students in the normal will be required to observe and to point out the strong points and the weak points in the teaching which they observe. I shall hope that the relations between the normal school and the city schools of Amarillo shall be such that the students of the normal will have access to the Amarillo city schools for the purpose of observing and criticising the work. With this in view, I hope that the Amarillo city schools will be such as to furnish us the best models in supervision, organization and school room instruction. This work will be required as a part of the regular work of the normal school. It will not be done occasionally and sporadically, but persistently and systematically. The necessity for this will be seen when you parallel the work of a normal school with that of a training school for physicians. It would indeed be a very poor sort of medical college that would undertake to do its work without clinics. The young physician is expected to know anatomy from having dissected subjects. He is expected to know the ordinary disease which he will treat from having diagnosed the same diseases and prescribed for them in the hospital attached to the college in which he was a student. It is just as illogical to have a normal school without special arrangements for this work as it would be to have a medical school without a hospital and clinics, or to have a law school without moot courts and observation of the actual proceedings in the courts of the country. Being situated in Canyon City, I hope and believe that the school authorities there will co-operate with the college authorities in making such a connection between the city schools and the college as will be helpful to both.

"I anticipate very great pleasure in being associated with the people of the Plains in all our common interests and great enterprises. I realize the great service which the newspapers can render in an educational way, because I have felt their strong influence during my administration of the affairs of this office."—Daily Panhandle.

Normal Building Architects are Selected.

Plans and specifications for the new State Normal school building to be erected at Canyon City will be drawn by a Fort Worth firm of architects, the contract being Saturday awarded to Waller, Shaw & Fields of this city.

Ten bids were received, but when the board adjourned Friday night the number had dwindled to four, George Burnett of Amarillo, Waller, Shaw & Fields of Fort Worth, Henry T. Phelps of San Antonio and C. H. Page & Brother of Austin.

The plans and specifications brought the cost of the building within the limit of \$100,000.—Fort Worth Record.

T. L. Crews of Paonia, Colorado, spent a few days the first of the week in Canyon and expects to remain here several days visiting friends. Mr. Crews says his home town is located in one of the greatest fruit growing belts in Colorado and a great number of apples have been shipped from that point this year.

A Fort Worth Firm Draws Normal Plans.

At a meeting of the State Board of Education, held today, (Dec. 4) the board opened bids for plans and specifications for the new West Texas Normal to be established at Canyon City. The board had the plans of a number of prominent architects over the state and finally adopted the plans of Waller, Shaw & Fields of Fort Worth. These plans and specifications call for a building, mission style, costing between \$90,000 and \$100,000, and is to be three stories in height, with thirty recitation rooms, two lecture rooms, a gymnasium 50x100 feet and a natatorium of the same dimensions. The plans also provide for an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,500 people.

The board decided to advertise for bids for the construction of the building, and these bids will be opened about Dec. 20. There were a number of architects here from all over the state in view of the matter.—Special to Dallas News.

Made Good Impression.

Hon. J. C. Hunt of Canyon City delivered an address at the I. O. O. F. hall in this city Thanksgiving on the subject "Higher Education."

The speaker is thoroughly conversant with his subject and in his masterly effort proved beyond question that the founding of colleges on the plains was a more potent factor for intellectual and industrial development than the construction of railroads and the establishment of factories.

He pointed with pride to the location of the State Normal at Canyon showing that it attracted the highest and best citizenship and eliminated the undesirable. Criminal statistics of the United States and Germany were strictly compared and the low percentage of crime in Germany was attributed to the education and intelligence of her citizenship.

The Judge's name has been frequently mentioned for a place in our Legislature and coming as he does from Canyon City where the State has just located one of its educational institutions,—which fact places him in close touch with the State—and that 1910 will be a census year necessitating the re-districting of the state for Congressional, Legislative and Judicial purposes, his recognized ability, his unimpeachable integrity and knowledge of our needs would make him a formidable candidate and a wise legislator.—Hale Center Live Wire.

West Texas Normal Plans.

Austin, Tex., Dec. 3.—The State Board of Education today began the consideration of plans for the new West Texas Normal. The board adjourned this afternoon with the determination to select finally its architect tomorrow, having narrowed the competition down to four applicants. Those whose plans will receive further consideration are Henry T. Phelps, San Antonio; C. H. Page, Austin; Walter, Shaw & Field, Ft. Worth, and George Burnett, Amarillo.—Dallas News.

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TEXAS OUT ON TOP HEAP.

BLUE RIBBONS ARE GATHERED IN AT CHICAGO SHOW.

Canyon City Stock Makes Splendid Showing in the Great Display of Cattle.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Cattlemen at the International Live Stock show had their innings today when the judges announced their decision on car load lots of grain fed and feeding cattle. There was much rivalry between the adherents of Shorthorns, Herefords and Angus breeders, and the Shorthorn breeders were jubilant when the judges awarded the grand championship to a bunch of Shorthorns. These cattle were owned by an Illinois farmer. A. A. Neale of Colorado was the winner of the grand championship of the feeder cattle show, with a load of red calves.

The prize shorthorns won nearly \$2,000 in prizes for their owners, Keays and Ormsby. This includes a \$1,000 special premium offered by the Shorthorn Breeders' association.

Texas proved her ability to produce cattle of championship caliber, despite the handicap of unfavorable conditions, when the Herefords of John Hutson of Canyon City took three prizes in the Hereford classes. Burke Burnett of Fort Worth took first honors with a car load of Herefords in the two year old class. Another car load of the same lot took fourth prize in the contest. In the Hereford special car load class, Mr. Burnett's entry took first place among two year olds.

Two Texans who also came in for prizes in the feeding cattle awards, when L. Roth of Midland took second, third and fourth honors with a lot of Angus calves, and R. E. Hughes of Odessa was given fifth in this class.

John Hutson of Canyon City was well pleased with the showing made by the Texas cattle under such adverse conditions. Mr. Hutson's "outdoor herd," which furnished the cattle being shown by him, is well known throughout the Southwest as being one of the best of the Hereford breed in the country.

The sale of Hereford cattle under the direction of the American Hereford Cattle Breeder's association, which was held at the yards, was well attended, and the Texas visitors entered into the bidding. Mr. Hutson added to his herd by purchasing Watercross, a one year old heifer. The price paid was \$210. Wallace Good of Bovina also invested some money at the sale, buying Orange Belle, calved in 1903 for \$155, and Prime Lad, a one year old bull for \$140.

Farmer's Meeting Postponed.

Owing to the cold weather and bad condition of the roads making it impossible for the farmers to get to town, there was no meeting of the Farmers' Institute yesterday. Harry O. Groves, Chas. Dammier and some of the more faithful congregated at the district court room at an early hour, but others failed to arrive according to schedule. The meeting was postponed until two weeks from Saturday. It is expected that a large number will be on hand at this time.—Amarillo Daily News.

Miss May Ballard returned from Denton where she has been attending the normal.